

Access DB# 91043**SEARCH REQUEST FORM**

Scientific and Technical Information Center

Requester's Full Name: Julian W. Woo Examiner #: 73827 Date: 4-8-03
Art Unit: 3731 Phone Number 30 8-0421 Serial Number: 08/988331 (Reissue app.)
Mail Box and Bldg/Room Location: CP2-2005 Results Format Preferred (circle): PAPER DISK E-MAIL

If more than one search is submitted, please prioritize searches in order of need.

Please provide a detailed statement of the search topic, and describe as specifically as possible the subject matter to be searched. Include the elected species or structures, keywords, synonyms, acronyms, and registry numbers, and combine with the concept or utility of the invention. Define any terms that may have a special meaning. Give examples or relevant citations, authors, etc, if known. Please attach a copy of the cover sheet, pertinent claims, and abstract.

Title of Invention: Universal Coupler for Spinal FixationInventors (please provide full names): Charles A. FinnEarliest Priority Filing Date: 11-18-94

**For Sequence Searches Only* Please include all pertinent information (parent, child, divisional, or issued patent numbers) along with the appropriate serial number.*

Need litigation search for U.S. Pat. No. 5,474,551.

STAFF USE ONLY**Type of Search****Vendors and cost where applicable**

Searcher: Solomon NA Sequence (#) _____ STN _____
Searcher Phone #: 305-5932 AA Sequence (#) _____ Dialog _____
Searcher Location: CP2-2008 Structure (#) _____ Questel/Orbit _____
Date Searcher Picked Up: 4-8-03 Bibliographic _____ Dr.Link _____
Date Completed: 4-8-03 Litigation ✓ Lexis/Nexis _____
Searcher Prep & Review Time: 10 Fulltext _____ Sequence Systems _____
Clerical Prep Time: _____ Patent Family _____ WWW/Internet _____
Online Time: 5 Other _____ Other (specify) _____

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE GRANTED
PATENT

5474551

December 12, 1995

Universal coupler for spinal fixation

REISSUE: Reissue Application filed Dec. 11, 1997 (O.G. Feb. 24, 1998) Ex. Gp.: 3309; Re. S.N. 08/988,331, (O.G. February 24, 1998)

APPL-NO: 342226 (08)

FILED-DATE: November 18, 1994

GRANTED-DATE: December 12, 1995

ENGLISH-ABST:

A spinal rod coupler assembly providing four degrees of freedom for connecting a spinal rod to a vertebrae of a patient which includes a tubular coupler member, an eyebolt, an insert and a set screw. The coupler member has a longitudinal bore, a central axis, and an end portion that is open ended and internally threaded and a second end portion that is closed. A plurality of openings in the tubular coupler member that includes a first pair of openings intersecting the central axis of the bore at generally right angles and a second pair of openings intersecting the central axis of the bore at generally right angles. The first and second pairs of openings being perpendicular to each other. The first pair of openings are sized and shaped to receive a spinal rod. The eyebolt has a shank portion and an eye portion, with the shank portion being insertable through the second pair of openings of the coupler body. The eye portion has an opening sized and shaped to mate with a selected bone bolt or bone screw. The insert fits within the bore and has opposed, arc-shaped end portions with recesses for engaging the spinal rod and eyebolt member. The set screw threadably engages the internally threaded end portion of the bore and tightens the assembly of the rod, insert, and eyebolt within the coupler member.

Selected file: PLUSPAT

**** SS 1: Results 1**

1 / 1 PLUSPAT - @QUESTEL-ORBIT - image
PN - US5474551 A 19951212 [US5474551]
TI - (A) Universal coupler for spinal fixation
PA - (A) SMITH & NEPHEW RICHARDS INC (US)
PAO - Smith & Nephew Richards, Inc., Memphis TN [US]
IN - (A) FINN CHARLES A (US); SHERMAN SCOTT (US)
AP - US34222694 19941118 [1994US-0342226]
PR - US34222694 19941118 [1994US-0342226]
IC - (A) A61B-017/70 A61B-017/86
EC - A61B-017/70B6
PCL - ORIGINAL (O) : 606061000; CROSS-REFERENCE (X) : 606073000
DT - Basic
CT - US4569338; US4648388; US4771767; US5024213; US5053034; US5129900;
US5176679; US5306275; US5344422; US5437669; WO9423661
STG - (A) United States patent
AB - A spinal rod coupler assembly providing four degrees of freedom for connecting a spinal rod to a vertebrae of a patient which includes a tubular coupler member, an eyebolt, an insert and a set screw. The coupler member has a longitudinal bore, a central axis, and an end portion that is open ended and internally threaded and a second end portion that is closed. A plurality of openings in the tubular coupler member that includes a first pair of openings intersecting the central axis of the bore at generally right angles and a second pair of openings intersecting the central axis of the bore at generally right angles. The first and second pairs of openings being perpendicular to each other. The first pair of openings are sized and shaped to receive a spinal rod. The eyebolt has a shank portion and an eye portion, with the shank portion being insertable through the second pair of openings of the coupler body. The eye portion has an opening sized and shaped to mate with a selected bone bolt or bone screw. The insert fits within the bore and has opposed, arc-shaped end portions with recesses for engaging the spinal rod and eyebolt member. The set screw threadably engages the internally threaded end portion of the bore and tightens the assembly of the rod, insert, and eyebolt within the coupler member.

1 / 1 LGST - @LEGSTAT
PN - US 5474551 [US5474551]
AP - US 342226/94 19941118 [1994US-0342226]
DT - US-P
ACT - 19941118 US/AE-A
APPLICATION DATA (PATENT)
US 342226/94 19941118 [1994US-0342226]

19950911 US/AS02
ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNOR'S INTEREST
SMITH & NEPHEW RICHARDS, INC. 1450 BROOKS ROAD MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE
38116 * SHERMAN, SCOTT : 19941212

19951212 US/A
PATENT

19980224 US/RF
REISSUE APPLICATION FILED
971211
UP - 1999-20

1 / 1 CRXX - @CLAIMS/RRX
PN - 5,474,551 A 19951212 [US5474551]
PA - Smith & Nephew Richards Inc
ACT - 19971211 REISSUE REQUESTED
ISSUE DATE OF O.G.: 19980224
REISSUE REQUEST NUMBER: 08/988331
EXAMINATION GROUP RESPONSIBLE FOR REISSUEPROCESS: 3309

Reissue Patent Number:

20020828 REASSIGNED
MERGER

Assignor: SURGICAL DYNAMICS INC. DATE SIGNED: 07/01/2002

Assignee: HOWMEDICA OSTEONICS CORP. 59 ROUTE 17 ALLENDALE NEW
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Reel 013193/Frame 0337

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Selected file: INPADO C

**** SS 1: Results 1**

1 / 1 INPADO C - @INPADO C
PN - US 5474551 A 19951212 [US5474551]
TI - UNIVERSAL COUPLER FOR SPINAL FIXATION
IN - FINN CHARLES A [US]; SHERMAN SCOTT [US]
PA - SMITH & NEPHEW RICHARDS INC [US]
AP - US 342226/94-A 19941118 [1994US-0342226]
PR - US 342226/94-A 19941118 [1994US-0342226]
IC - A61B-017/70; A61B-017/86

1 / 1 LEGALI - @LEGSTAT
PN - US 5474551 [US5474551]
AP - US 342226/94 19941118 [1994US-0342226]
DT - US-P
ACTE - 19941118 US/AE-A
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Session finished: 08 APR 2003 Time 22:12:50